DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 232 126 CS 007 122

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TITLE Paperback Pizzazz.
INSTITUTION International Reading Association, Newark, Del.
PUB DATE [Jun 83]
NOTE 3p.
PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Collected Works - Serials (022)
JOURNAL CIT News for Administrators; v3 n2 p1 Jun 1983

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS Elementary Education; *Paperback Books; Program Descriptions; Reading Attitudes; *Reading Programs; Recreational Reading; *Student Motivation; Sustained Silent Reading
IDENTIFIERS PF Project

ABSTRACT

THE FOLLOWING IS THE FULL TEXT OF THIS DOCUMENT: For the last three years, in the Flowing Wells Schools in Tucson, Arizona, Reading Specialists Susan Heintz and Carol McPheeters have directed a continuous program which involves a total schoolwide commitment to developing positive feelings toward reading. The name of this program is "Paperback Pizzazz." This program utilizes a multitude of high interest paperback books which are written at the appropriate readability levels for the students. An unusual aspect of this program is that students have oral conferences with the reading specialist about the books they have read. This retelling technique provides the teacher with knowledge of the students' comprehension. The four program components are: (1) Motivation--Teachers take time to read excerpts from popular books in order to "sell" reading. Students may select a take-home book from the "Paperback Pizzazz" bookstore as a reward for reading throughout the year. Students who are awarded "Reader of the Month" or "Reader of the Week" certificates are permitted to read with the principal. (2) Reading--Every child at the school reads silently for one-half hour, four days a week. (3) Follow-Up--Individual conferences are held with each child. The teacher evaluates the book review given by the student. Awards are given weekly for good reports. (4) Rights, Respect and Responsibility--Group discussions stress the importance of each individual's right to read and the importance of good behavior. The entire school population (kindergarten through fifth grade) participates in this program on a rotating basis. Each grade level attends "Paperback Pizzazz" for six weeks during the school year. Modifications are made for kindergarten and first grade. Approximately 400 high-interest paperback books were needed to initiate the program and additional titles were added periodically. The revenue necessary for this project is provided by the P.T.A. and the Student Activity Fund. "Paperback Pizzazz" is situated in the reading room in an area wih bean bag chairs, comfortable pillows and carpeting which provides the students with an environment conducive to restful and relaxing reading. (John McCarthy is principal at Flowing Wells School, Tucson, Arizona.) (Author)

ED232126

PAPERBACK PIZZAZZ

John McCarthy

from NEWS for Administrators, Volume 3, Number 2 June 1983

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NEWS for Administrators

Volume 3, Number 2 June 1983

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PAPERBACK PIZZAZZ

by John McCarthy

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2. Reading - Every child at the school reads silently for one-half hour, four days a week.

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